

# Conferences, Farmers' - 1917

## FARMERS' CONFERENCE AT GA. STATE COLLEGE

(Special to THE NEW YORK AGE)  
SAVANNAH, Ga., Feb. 28.—The nineteenth annual farmers' conference of the Georgia State Industrial College was held in the Meldrim Auditorium, at the college, with President R. R. Wright in charge.

Representatives of the United States Department of Agriculture, of the State Agricultural Department and of the Savannah Health Department took active part in the conference. Many of the most prominent educators, business and professional men of the state, colored and white were on the program, which included consideration of practical farming, fertilizers, boll weevil, dairying, poultry raising, animal husbandry, health, tuberculosis, pellagra, farm management, moral conditions, the Negro exodus and the high cost of living.

### Negro Farmers Hold Boll Weevil Meeting

At Fort Valley, Ga.  
Constitution 2-2-17

Fort Valley, Ga., February 1.—(Special.)—At the Fort Valley High and Industrial school, an institution located here for the education of the negro, there is being held a two days' meeting of negro farmers for the purpose of procuring information as to the best means of fighting the boll weevil. The opening day was well attended. Among the well-known speakers for today and tomorrow are State Entomologist Lee Orsham, Professor George Goddard and Mrs. Bessie Stanley Wood, state home demonstration agent. Tomorrow one thousand hams and other products raised by negro farmers will be on exhibition.

Macon, Ga.

## HELPING DOUGHERTY NEGROES

Educational Meetings for Blacks Being Held  
All Over the Country.

ALBANY, Feb. 28.—Education of negro farmers along lines of diversified agriculture and how to fight the boll weevil, also as to health and sanitation, is receiving the attention of Dougherty county at present.

At a meeting held at Pecan City 150 negroes were present, and paid close attention to talks made by Dr. John A. White, county health commissioner, and L. A. Cromartie, county agricultural agent.

Dr. White spoke on malaria and tuberculosis, telling the negroes how to prevent these diseases and giving them many pointers on health and sanitation.

Mr. Cromartie told the negroes how to raise cotton under boll weevil conditions, and how to profit from diversified methods of agriculture.

Similar meetings will be held in every schoolhouse in the county.

Nashville, Tenn.

## MEETING IN INTEREST OF COLORED FARMERS

Special to the Banner.

Franklin, Tenn., Feb. 28.—The recent conference held at the public school in the interest of the colored farmers of the county was quite a success and largely attended. The idea expressed at the meeting was to raise more food-stuffs. The meeting was presided over by James W. Hughes, supervisor of the colored school, who is doing much for his race along this line. A demonstrator from Nashville came out and gave some interesting short talks on catting and farming. The director of home economics for Middle and West Tennessee, Miss Mabel O. Myers, was present and gave some very helpful hints on cooking. It was reported that the colored public schools were in better condition than ever, and with bright prospects for the future. They will hold their fifth industrial school term on May 4-5.

## CHICAGO FARMERS HOLD MEETING

Topeka, Kan., Dec. 21.—The Sunflower State Agricultural association, which is composed of farmers, met here last week. President W. E. Carter delivered the annual address. J. C. Groves, known as the "potato king," was in attendance. W. R. Carter was elected president, J. C. Carson, Mrs. M. Rolin and S. T. W. Canaway vice presidents, J. G. Groves treasurer, J. R. Rogers chairman of executive committee and Mrs. H. W. Wilson director of woman's department. Dec. 22, 1917

Conferences, Farmers'-1917

# LANE COLLEGE FARMERS' CONFERENCE

## ANNUAL GATHERING OF LEADERS IN AGRICULTURE IN WEST TENN.

Improvement of Conditions of Rural and City Life Discussed--Prominent Speakers on the Program--Pres.

*National Lane a Moving Spirit*  
*Stable - 2-23-17*

Jackson, Tenn., Feb. 22.—(Special to Nashville Globe.) Patriotic singing, preceded by a fervent prayer in which the benediction of an All-wise God was asked upon the hundreds gathered here, marked the opening of the annual conference of farmers which has been conducted here for a number of years under the auspices of Lane College. The sessions began promptly at ten o'clock after a preliminary meeting had been held in the main hall of Lane College. In addition to perfecting the organization of the conference the hearing of the reports of the local league and county organizations, and the compiling of statistics which had been arranged prior to the meeting proper took place. The devotions were conducted by Rev. A. W. Womack, A. B., one of the well known pastors of this county. One of the first departmental meetings was the Madison County Colored Fruitgrowers Association. This proved interesting and inspiring. But for the first real topic of the conference for public discussion was "How Best to Fight the Boll Weevil." An expert from the United States Government Agricultural and Experimental Station delivered a special address in which he told of the work and the necessity of the farmer applying himself to particular work. The general topic for discussion was "Every Farmer Must Feed Himself and Family." Perhaps no subject which will be discussed throughout the sessions evoked more interest than this one. The present high cost of food seemed to have injected more life into the general topic. Following this came "Improvement of Country Life," which was

the key note of the first day's session and which was subdivided as follows:

1. Better Housing Conditions: (a) More rooms; (b) Better houses.
2. Religious Life: (a) Better Prepared Preachers; (b) Improved Religious Services; (c) Examples.
3. Educational Advantages: (a) Better schools and teaching; (b) Longer Terms.
4. Social Conditions: (a) Strengthening Moral Life.

The city was a bee hive of activity throughout the day as the farmers and citizens came in to take advantage of these meetings and discussions. It seems, however, that the height or climax of the conference was reached tonight in its first night session, when the Rev. R. H. Boyd, D. D., the secretary and founder of the National Baptist Publishing House, and himself a practical farmer who has had a number of years' experience, addressed the meeting, and his address, the subject of which was "Cotton," was listened to by an immense audience.

The general topic, "What Can Be Done to Improve the Health and Economy of Life of the Negro?" was discussed before the opening of the program proper. The music helped to lend to the occasion. The prayer by Rev. A. N. Stevens and the singing by the college glee club, with short talks by Bishop N. C. Cleaves and Dr. S. A. O'Neal, were merely introductory. When Mr. Boyd was introduced and arose to make his address he was greeted with a shower of applause.

### NEGRO FARMERS MAKING PROGRESS.

Large Crowds Attend Lane College Farmers Conference.

Jackson, Tenn., Feb. 24, 1917.—The Fourteenth session of the Lane College Farmers Conference was held here Thursday and Friday. The attendance was larger than ever before, farmers, teachers, doctors, ministers and others came from almost every county in West Tennessee. Reports showed that great progress is being made. Popular addresses were made by Mr. S. M. Roberts, of the Experiment Station, Dr. R. H. Boyd, of Nashville and Mrs. McDonald of Nashville, Dr. S. A. O'Neal, of Kentucky, Bishop N. C. Cleaves and Dr. W. T. Vernon, of Memphis. The following is the declaration of principles the conference sends out to the country:

"We, the Lane College Farmers' Conference, send forth the following as our declaration of principles:

"While the world is passing through one of the most crucial epochs of its many years of history, we rejoice to know that peace and prosperity have abounded in our country; and, we, as a race, have been able, in a measure to make progress commensurate with the age in which we live.

"Most heartily do we commend our colored farmers who have shown themselves progressive and have made themselves profits by raising diversified crops, a better breed of horses, cattle, hogs, poultry and the like, and we urge all others to follow their example and succeed thereby.

"We deeply deplore the fact that so many of our people, in recent months, have become nomadic in spirit, are leaving the Southland, moving to the congested districts of the North, and settling in environments to them entirely unknown. To those of the other race who would like to know the cause and help us check this efflux, we respectfully suggest the following as the most probable causes: Bobocracy, injustice at the judicial bar, poor educational facilities, and the lack of certain economic, civic and political rights that are inalienable to a free people.

"In the year 1916, there were 54 lynchings in the United States and fourteen of these (more than one-fourth) occurred in Georgia; and from this state we have had doubtless, our greatest exodus of people.

"In many sections of our own state and counties, it has become to be almost a frequent occurrence for a white man, for a most trivial cause, to shoot down a defenseless Negro, and then be freed in the courts of justice on

the time-worn plea of 'self defense.' "While we comprise approximately 11 per cent of the United States, only one and a half per cent of the public school fund is used for Negro education. In many of our rural schools, the terms are short (from 40 to 60 days), houses poor and teachers paid the meager salaries of \$20 to \$30 per month. Said teachers are not able to procure pedagogic literature or attend Normals or professional schools so essential for their work. We must depend upon these poorly paid—hence necessarily poorly prepared teachers to mold the character and shape the destiny of our youth who will be required to keep step with the mighty drum-beat of American progress.

"We express it as our candid opinion, that while some benefits have been derived therefrom, nothing has been a greater curse to our people than the 'credit system,' which has reduced many of our farmers to a state of servitude from which they have not been able to free themselves for a whole generation. We should begin now to save a little every year until we are both able to furnish ourselves for the crop-making period and tide ourselves over a bad crop year.

"Finally, We commend most heartily the president and executive committee for the very splendid session now closing and we hereby pledge ourselves, one and all, that better people, exemplary homes, improved schools, qualified teachers, adequate churches, realty and financial competency shall become our watchword in our various communities."

### FARMERS' CONFERENCE HELD AT LAWRENCEVILLE.

*The Richmond*  
*7/4/17*

Despite lowering skies and intermittent showers the Thirteenth annual session of the St. Paul Farmer's Conference, Lawrenceville, in session here July 26th-27th was a splendid success. The attendance, though interfered with by threatening weather and high water in various parts of the county, yet totalled over 1,200. An out-door meeting had been arranged and a large arbor constructed, but this could not be used the first day on account of the rain. The chapel, though a large structure, was unable to hold the throng. The crowd filled the aisles and every available space, and overflowed into the entrance ways.

### A RED LETTER DAY.

It was red letter day for the Conference, for former Governor Mann was to address the gathering. The audience came from all parts of the county and from Mecklenburg, Greenville and Lunenburg. The former Governor received an ovation when

he arose to speak after an introduction by President Russell, who referred at some length to his career and distinguished services. The audience rose enmasse to receive the Governor and it was some minutes before the cheering subsided sufficiently to enable him to begin.

### SPEAKS ON AGRICULTURAL PREPAREDNESS

After some complimentary remarks about what he had heard and read about the progress of the Negroes of Brunswick and what he had seen himself since being in their midst and of the great good that the school was doing as an uplift agency, which he said was second to none in the country, he got down to his main topic: "Agricultural Preparedness." He said that he had been sent to them by the Virginia Council of Defense. The Governor stressed the importance of improving the soil and increasing its productivity. He showed that with proper methods of cultivation the resources of the State could take care of 10,000,000 population instead of 2,200,000; that of the 25,000,000 acres of cultivatable land in the State only 4,000,000 were under cultivation, 10,000,000 acres being idle. He made an appeal for the cultivation of our idle lands. The importance and the great work of the farm demonstration service was referred to and especially Dr. Eggleston's help in developing it. The work was begun with fourteen, there were now sixty-four demonstrators at work. He also laid special stress upon how worn out soils could be improved; telling what had been accomplished in Nottoway by Mr. Sandy and others, including his own experience, which convinced him that there was no such thing as worn out soils as in most cases only intelligent cultivation was needed to make them fertile. He closed by expressing his gratification at the good relations of the races in the county as evidenced by the set of resolutions read in his hearing arranging for a plan of co-operation between the white and colored people in holding a county fair.

### REV. DR. PATTON'S ADDRESS.

The next address was in the afternoon by Rev. Dr. R. W. Patton, general agent of the American Church Institute for Negroes. Dr. Patton's eloquent address was devoted to showing how great was a contest for the supremacy of Democracy and how the Negro was in partnership with the white man in this world contest of Democracy against autocracy. It was a most eloquent plea for the cultivation of the principles of real citizenship by the Negro and the importance of his doing his duty as an American citizen in the crisis confronting the nation.

### PRESIDENT RUSSELL'S ADDRESS



The President's address was as usual a resume of progress during the year and review of conditions. In merely material progress the county was more than holding its own, having nearly 63,000 acres of land to its credit with a reality of \$732,419, and personal property, \$233,037, a total of \$965,456. In school progress the county stood third in enrollment and first in amount of money raised to extend school terms. The address emphasized the importance of a more regular attendance, increased payment of capitation and increased enrollment.

#### WOMAN'S CONGRESS.

The Conference adopted unanimously a resolution to accept the proposition of the white fair association to co-operate with them in holding a fair to the end that only one fair be held for both white and colored instead of two as at present. The second day was Woman's Day. Registration cards were distributed and a large number of women registered. Reports and routine matters concluded the most successful session in the history of the Conference.

## FARM TOPICS

By JOHN D. WRAY

Negro Boys' Farm Club Agent

SCOTLAND COUNTY FARMERS' TRI-ANNUAL CONFERENCE AT LAURINBURG—\$200,000 FEDERAL LOAN ASSOCIATION ORGANIZED.

*The Journal of Guide*  
One of the most interesting sessions in the history of the Scotland County Farmers' Tri-Annual Conference was held at Laurinburg, N. C., February 2, 1917. Farmers, school teachers, preachers and nearly every other class of men were present. Mr. Stewart, president of the conference was sick so Prof. E. M. McDuffie, president ex-officio presided. After the usual preliminaries, he presented Jno. Wray, Negro Boys' Farm Club Agent of North Carolina, under the auspices of the State and National Government. He made a few brief remarks and then introduced Professor A. L. Mebane of A. & T. College at Greensboro, N. C., who gave a most interesting address on the effect of the migration of the Negro to the North, before and after the war is over. The speaker felt very reluctant, as many other prominent Negroes do, about a part of the Negroes who are going North. A great many of them belong to a floating class that does not reflect

credit upon the race, and in view of the fact that there are so many of this class in the exodus, and so few of the better type, there is grave danger that the Northern white men may get the wrong idea of the race. The Negroes of the higher type are staying in the South. They are engaged in farming and educational work and for that reason, are likely to remain in the South. So there is the strongest possibility that the Northern white man will never meet but a very few of the high class Negroes among the laborers they are employing; therefore a mistaken idea of the real worth and high standing of our people is almost inevitable.

Another thought was, in case there should be, as there most likely will, a great influx of the European paupers to this country after world-war is over, who would consider it an opportunity to work for one-half, and in some cases one-third of the wages the migrators are now receiving. What would become of those Negroes, they have not been trained to live under such conditions as these paupers and therefore could not compete with them. If this should be the case, there seeming prosperity would be like Jonah's gourd vine which grew up in one night, only to be cut down by a worm before the morning sun had risen.

The political, civil and social conditions of the South were considered and the effect of such an exodus on their improvement, but our final conclusion was, that the Negro had better stay in the South.

#### Federal Farm Loan Association Organized.

At this point, we took up the Federal Loan Association. Every phase of the organization was explained. There were representatives of two local organizations present. Nashville community with \$95,000 subscribed and Oak Hill with over \$100,000. From these two, the officers for a county organization were chosen and it was decided that the business of the entire county would be transacted through the central organization, whose total subscription would amount to about \$200,000.

This Federal Loan Association is the salvation of the Negro farmer. Many of them have good farms, but not the means to operate them successfully. Some need fences, ditching and tilling, while others are in need of heavier teams, better equipments in the way of machinery, improved stock and better buildings and nearly all of them are greatly in need of liberty from financial slavery.

#### The Crop Lien Evil.

There are those who own their land and have to bend on their knees to the merchants for food and fertilizer to run their farms. The prices on such material usually advances as the crop progresses. That is, if the crop is good their accounts will be increased

to the consumptive point in order to keep these fellows under their thumbs, or should the crop be a failure the poor fellow is either sold out or tied with cords of sympathy that fasten more securely the farmer and his family.

#### Why They Leave The Farm.

Although they toil on for years with the hope of liberty which they receive a great many times, only at the hideous doors of death. The children have grown up in ignorance and discouragement and prefer anything to the farm, away they go to the towns and cities, many of them to work the public roads for the comfort of the automobile driver or to be de-lorized on the public works, either of which means degradation to the race and loss to the State of one of its most precious assets, good citizenship. Who is responsible for all of this? For the most part, those who promote the crop-lean system.

#### How The Farm Loan Association Helps.

The Federal Loan Association offers the splendid remedy for this evil which like an eating cancer, gradually working its way into the stamina of this Nation, and sooner or later must cause a collapse with similar upheaval to those of Europe today. So let every Negro who can take advantage of the Government aid and save themselves, their children and the race, as well as the Nation. This opportunity when once passed, may never return, seize it while it is passing.

#### Prominent Farmers Present.

Dr. S. A. Peeler and Dr. R. H. Harris made strong speeches endorsing the Association. Among the prominent farmers present who own their land were: Norman McNeal, Jessie McKinnon, L. D. Graham, G. W. Graham, Wagram, N. C., Route 1, 50 acres each; Philip Alford, Todd McAlster, Geo. Malloy, T. D. McNeal, Peter McAlster, Archy Cannady, Daniel McLaughlin, Jno. W. McLaughlin, Jessie McNeal and G. G. Love, Wagram, N. C., Route 1, all own 100 acres or more each. There were also men like A. L. McNair who owns two hundred acres, Timberland, N. C., Route 1; Sandy Blue, 400 acres, Wagram, N. C., Route 1; T. S. Blue, 500 acres, Timberland, N. C., Route 1; S. P. Gibson, 500 acres, Wagram, N. C., Route 1.

## RACE PROGRESS

## IN MISSISSIPPI

*The Palatka Advocate*  
Farmers' New Annual Meeting

at Utica Institute.

## 3-10-17 STORIES OF SUCCESS HEARD

Principal William H. Holtzclaw In Vigorous Address to Representative Gathering Says South Is Best Place For the Colored People—Health and Home Owning Discussed.

By HORACE D. SLATTER.

Utica, Miss.—The usual experience meeting of former conferences became this year, 1917, a veritable school, where men and women vied with each other in asking questions that would make their burdens lighter, that would make their community better and that would put them all in position to render better service one to another and to understand their peculiar problems day by day. This in a nutshell describes the thirteenth annual session of the Utica institute farmers' conference recently held in this town. The conference lasted two days and was presided over by William H. Holtzclaw, principal of the school. The meeting was attended by several hundred farmers from the surrounding neighborhoods. Many educators, ministers and other professional and business men were also in attendance.

Principal Holtzclaw in his advice to the farmers in the south with reference to migration to northern centers was pointed and vigorous, but he maintained that the south was the better place for the Negro. However, he recognized the right of any individual to change his residence if he thinks best to do so.

The declarations adopted by the conference were just as frank as the address of Principal Holtzclaw. They recounted the progress made by the Negro, congratulated him thereon, but did not fail in the meantime to point out the need for the development of the country round about them, the prevention of so much disease, the suppression of crime and the building of home life.

Problems of health, community life and farm improvement were considered in a vigorous manner by the conference. County Superintendent F. M. Coleman laid major stress upon the importance of agriculture in the life of the people, urged larger co-operation on the part of the Negro ministers in the large amount of uplift work the Negro teachers were doing in the county and told just what the county department of education was doing to help the colored people in Hinds county.

The wonderful fertility of the soil and the varied nature of the yield that would be possible under intelligent farming were demonstrated by Professor George W. Carver of Tuskegee institute in a manner that easily made him the feature of the conference. Unassuming, quite like a farmer in appearance, he hardly impresses one as a member of learned societies that have for their object the promotion of science. He was the most pronounced advocate of diversification and incidentally struck the national begira a hard blow when he showed what the Negro farmer could do with the Mississippi soil the year round. Reducing the high cost of living would be an easy matter if the farmers would raise a goodly amount of their own stuff, according to Professor Carver, who showed how from the velvet bean bread, coffee, candies and foodstuff could be made.

Concrete examples of the influence the institute had exercised over the people of the community were afforded by a number of talks from farmers present, typical among which was that of R. D. Morrison, who since the beginning of these conferences had purchased a farm of 190 acres, had taken the lead in his community near Edwards and had succeeded in raising among the colored people more than \$1,000 with which they had elected a modern three room school building. To this Julius Rosenwald added \$300, and lately a blacksmith shop has been erected. Cooking, carpentry and blacksmithing were taught in addition to the common school branches.

Henry Kennard stated that he had always worked as a renter or share cropper and wanted to purchase a home. He sought light from some one in the conference who had succeeded. John Tyner, who had been buying a home for ten years, told how it could be accomplished and made the point that it was better to be ten years buying a home than to rent twenty, as many had done. Sam Field recounted an incident that illustrates the value and influence of the personal relations between some white and colored men in the south when he showed how by the exercise of diplomacy he succeeded in getting the use of a first class mule from his white landlord.

United States Demonstration Agent J. H. Tanner gave some common sense advice and urged the farmers to stick to the pig as a valuable help to get out of debt or to accumulate money. He told the farmers that they were welcome to take advantage of the co-operative shipping of hogs and stated that in the last shipment of a car and a half from Utica a number of Negro farmers had participated.



## Conferences, Farmers' - 1917

### GOVERNOR PRAISES WORK AT SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY COURSE

#### Colored Farmers' Conference at Baton Rouge Marked by Instructive Talks.

Baton Rouge, La., Feb. 10.—The last day of the Farmers' Conference of Southern University and A. & M. College here, which was a record-breaker from the points of attendance and enthusiasm. Governor Pleasant was among the speakers. The audience consisted of pupils in the short course, farmers from all sections of the state, professors, ministers and business men, making an audience of more than 700 people. The program began with an address by Prof. J. H. Whaley, principal of the Northwest Institute, Mansfield. He gave an instructive talk on the raising of Irish potatoes. This address was followed by Prof. J. M. Frazier, who spoke on school gardening. Both of these speakers are school men and gave helpful suggestions to the conference.

Dr. H. H. Dunn, pastor of the Central Congregational Church, New Orleans, was introduced and expressed himself as being well pleased at the results being obtained in the conference. He assured those present that the city people were interested in what they were doing.

The principal speaker of the morning was Prof. George W. Carver, director of the Experiment Station, Tuskegee Institute, Alabama. He discussed the money-making side from the raising of pigs and chickens, and urged the establishment of pig clubs. He also urged the co-operation of farmers. He told what the people in Mississippi are doing in the way of organizing boys into pig clubs and said the same could be done in Louisiana.

In the afternoon the University chorus sang "America" and a plantation melody: "Couldn't Hear Nobody Pray," which were greatly appreciated by the visitors. Leo M. Favrot, state supervisor of rural schools for colored people, then addressed the conference. He said that Southern University is doing a great work for the training of the citizens of the state and of the South. He discussed the condition of the rural schools, which he said is far below the standard. He said that the schools needed longer terms, better teachers, better equipment and better salaries. He spoke of the Rosenwald fund as a means of helping the colored public schools of Louisiana, but said he: "We must do something ourselves." He emphasized the need of industrial work in all of the public schools. He spoke of parish training schools for the colored people in different sections of the state. He said, however, that the farmers could do much in helping to make the schools better.

Colonel I. D. Wall, a lawyer of Baton Rouge, and a former member of the Legislature, in his address before the

conference said he felt that this school was serving the needs of the colored people of the state. He urged the colored people to respect themselves and to live law-abiding citizens and get training that will fit them for all the walks of life. He urged the people to save and not waste. In closing, he assured the colored people that they had many friends among the whites.

**GOVERNOR COMMENDS WORK**  
Governor Pleasant, in addressing the audience, said, in part: "You have come here from all parts of the state in this farmers' conference, to better yourselves and therefore to better your race, and consequently to better the state of Louisiana." He commended highly the work of Leo M. Favrot, state inspector of colored schools, and at the same time complimented Colonel I. D. Wall, who had just delivered an eloquent address in speaking of the address of Professor George W. Carver, of Tuskegee Institute, he said:

"I listened with peculiar and particular interest and benefit to that portion which I had the pleasure of hearing, and I consider it wholesome advice and excellent instruction. It is men like him, like your president and like others to whom I could refer, such as the late Booker T. Washington, whom the white people join the colored people in honoring—it is men like these that you want to produce to take their stand among the chief men of the nation."

"You see the great automobile factories in the East, we see the other factories turning out the great steam engines, the navy yards turning out magnificent steamships, you see all the factories of all the world turning out their finished products, but the greatest factory of all the great factories of the world is the factory that turns out trained men and women. When you turn out a finished man, a finished woman, to go out into the world and battle through life, that man and that woman will do something that is of benefit to the nation. Ignorance never accomplished anything since the sun first shone upon the earth. Education is not always confined to educational institutions," and he mentioned the education acquired by experience and by contact.

In referring to the information that the farmers had received by attending the Farmers' Short Course, the governor said: "I know that you will go forth feeling more equipped for the battle of life; that you will go forth feeling that you have been benefited by your sojourn at this institution; that you will go forth better citizens, better farmers than you were before you came here. If you cannot win as farmers and citizens after listening to the kind of instruction you have received here you cannot win at all. I believe you will win."

He spoke of the great opportunity the people have in Louisiana. Among other things he said: "We have twenty-nine million acres of land with only about five million acres under cultivation, leaving some twenty-four million to be brought into subjection under the hand of man—some of the richest soil on God's green earth—the valley of the Nile hardly compares with some of the soil we have here. We have certain sections of the state in which the alluvial soil is a thousand feet deep and, as a Boston chemist said, it would be worth \$5 a ton as fertilizer on some of the bleak hills of Massachusetts, and yet compare our state with the wealth of Massachusetts and how far are we behind, with all of these great natural resources. It is the work of institutions of this kind, the Louisiana State University at Baton Rouge, the agricultural and high schools throughout the state, to see that all the people who compose our citizenship are educated to that extent that they will help to develop the resources of the state. Not only have we magnificent soil, but we have the best waterways of any state in the United States—more navigable streams; Louisiana is first in the production of sugar, cane, first in the production of rice, first in the production of salt, and among the leading states in the production of lumber, oil and gas." In closing he urged

the people to stand by Southern University and said that it should stand out first as making for the highest citizenship among the colored people in the state. He expressed himself as being well pleased at the conference and the work the university is doing.

#### CARVER AND CLARK SPEAK

The last number of the afternoon program was the second address by Professor George W. Carver, on the sweet potato, in which he exhibited different products obtained from the sweet potato. The conference closed with an address by President Clark, who emphasized the results obtained in this conference from lectures, demonstrations and examples. He said: "We are particularly indebted to the governor, the state superintendent, Mr. Favrot, the members of the faculty of Louisiana State University and our leading colored men and women and farmers who have joined me in making this conference one of the biggest affairs of the school. I am of the opinion that the white people are more interested in our education and development now than they have ever been before, and let us encourage them in what they are giving by doing our very best as teachers, ministers, and farmers, to help develop all the resources of the great state in which we live." President Clark said that there has been such a keen interest manifested on the part of the visiting farmers that they are determined not only to return next year, but to bring others. "Southern University's mission," said he, "is to help all the people in the state of Louisiana, whether they are teachers, farmers or persons in other professions. The teachers and student body have united with me in helping to entertain these friends and the only pay we desire is to put into practice the lessons that you have been taught."

#### FARMERS' CONFERENCE.

Our Natchitoches County farmers have begun their annual conference at Crocker's Hall last Saturday night. A number of the best farmers in the county and conferred about their very best interests. To say that they are really of business men, and not just farmers, who they are, for they are real business-farmers. Among them, the reporter noted C. W. Luke, F. A. Rogers, C. W. Luke, J. E. Rogers, W. W. Walden, A. J. Holland, J. P. Lane, J. T. Reid, A. H. Lee, J. C. Carney, Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Boykin, Mrs. G. A. Troy and hearing arranging for a plan of co-operation between the white and colored people in holding a county fair.

It is very interesting to note that this was what may easily be called anoon by the Rev. Dr. R. W. Patton, "Farmers' Love Feast." This is the general agent of the American Church way one of our city farmers put it to the reporter. Mrs. G. A. Troy was devoted to showing how the Negro one of the interesting speakers: She was in partnership with the white man gave a vivid idea of her expectation in this world contest of democracy of work among the farmers' wives for against autocracy.

The summer, canning of fruit and all kinds of vegetables. As industrial teacher for the county, she is expected to begin instruction for canning as soon as there is something to can, was more than holding its own, having Prof. Blandford, Superintendent of nearly 63,000 acres of land to its credit with a reality of \$732,419, and per was the principle speaker. He did not begin his speech with "I always love to speak to you folks," but simply spoke to men and women as he found them. When he had finished he opened himself a question box. And fortunate for him, he was able to answer all the questions those intelligent farmers put to him. One of the most pertinent questions was by one of our city farmers. It was "Do you think our questions intelligent?" "Yes," came without the least hesitancy. The conference was very much pleased with his address. Others gave very helpful talks. Mr. F. A. Hodges is one of the best informed of our farmers on the subject of raising hogs with especial care.

**ST. PAUL'S FARMERS' CONFERENCE.**  
Lawrenceville, Va.—Despite lowering skies and intermittent showers the thirteenth annual session of the St. Paul Farmers' Conference in session here July 26-27, was a splendid success. The attendance, despite threatening weather and high water in various parts of the county, was over 1,200. An outdoor meeting had been arranged and a large arbor constructed but could not be used the first day on account of rain. The chapel, though a large structure, was unable to hold the throng.

It was red letter day for the conference for former Gov. Mann addressed the gathering. The audience from all parts of the county and from Mecklenburg, Greeneville and Lunenburg. The former Governor received an ovation when he arose to speak after an introduction by President Russell.

After some complimentary remarks about what he had heard and read about the progress of the Negroes of Brunswick and what he had seen himself since being in their midst and of the great good that the school was doing as an uplift agency, which he said was second to none in the country, he got down to his main topic: "Agricultural Preparedness." He said that he had been sent to them by the Virginia Council of Defense and laid stress on the importance of improving the soil and increasing its productivity. He showed that with proper methods of cultivation the resources of the State could take care of 10,000,000 population instead of 2,290,000; that of the 25,000,000 acres of cultivable land in the State only 4,000,000 were under cultivation, 10,000,000 acres being idle. He made an appeal for the cultivation of our idle lands. The importance and the great work of the farm demonstration service was referred to and especially Dr. Eggleston's help in developing it.

The speaker concluded by expressing gratification at the good relations of the races in the county as evidenced by the set of resolutions read in his hearing arranging for a plan of co-operation between the white and colored people in holding a county fair.

The next address was in the afternoon by the Rev. Dr. R. W. Patton, "Farmers' Love Feast." This is the general agent of the American Church way one of our city farmers put it to the reporter. Mrs. G. A. Troy was devoted to showing how the Negro one of the interesting speakers: She was in partnership with the white man gave a vivid idea of her expectation in this world contest of democracy of work among the farmers' wives for against autocracy.

The summer, canning of fruit and all kinds of vegetables. As industrial teacher for the county, she is expected to begin instruction for canning as soon as there is something to can, was more than holding its own, having Prof. Blandford, Superintendent of nearly 63,000 acres of land to its credit with a reality of \$732,419, and per was the principle speaker. He did not begin his speech with "I always love to speak to you folks," but simply spoke to men and women as he found them. When he had finished he opened himself a question box. And fortunate for him, he was able to answer all the questions those intelligent farmers put to him. One of the most pertinent questions was by one of our city farmers. It was "Do you think our questions intelligent?" "Yes," came without the least hesitancy. The conference was very much pleased with his address. Others gave very helpful talks. Mr. F. A. Hodges is one of the best informed of our farmers on the subject of raising hogs with especial care.

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### BRICK SCHOOL FARMERS' DAY

**BIG EVENT ON FEBRUARY 22—  
FARMERS AND EDUCATORS**

#### WILL DISCUSS FARM PROBLEMS.

*The Journal & Guide*  
(By O. R. Pope.)

Rocky Mount, N. C.—The Farmers' Day, February 22, at the Joseph K. Brick School this year promises to be unusually interesting. "The High Cost of Living" will be discussed and methods suggested to reduce it. There will be big exhibits from the different schools of this section. Prominent educators from this and other states will be present and lend their aid in addresses and discussions that are sure to be beneficial. The school will furnish ample accommodations for all who attend, and everybody is invited.

Mr. Willie Foster and Miss Annie Stokes were united in wedlock at the A. M. E. Church last Wednesday night, February 7th. The Rev. Foster, officiating. A reception was tendered them at the residence of Mrs. Nannie Bryant last Monday night.

Mr. L. L. Battle has secured the services of Mr. Hines of Scotland Neck as an embalmer. Mr. Hines is an expert in his line.

A new teacher will be added to the faculty of the Lincoln School. This will somewhat relieve the unprecedented congestion of students in most of the rooms.

A great Sunday School campaign is on at the Mt. Zion Baptist Church. Prizes are being offered for those who succeed in getting the greatest number of students.

The Alpha moving picture house presented last week a double reel of colored artists only, "The Negro Realizing His Ambition" and "The Trooper of Troop K." The latter being based on the 10th U. S. Cavalry at Carrizal. Mr. Baynard, the capable proprietor, was highly complimented on all sides for bringing to the city these fine pictures. The Rev. Dr. Talley, who was in the audience Saturday night, publicly expressed his approval of the fine order and of the high character of the pictures.

Music lovers of Rocky Mount will be pleased to learn that the Invincible Concert Company of Chicago, a division of the famous Williams singers, and under the same management, will appear at the Lincoln School Auditorium, Tuesday, March 6th. Needless to say that they will be greeted by a capacity house. They are said to be the last word in vocal and instrumental music.

**NEGRO IS WILLING**  
He is Anxious To Get Into  
Fight, Says W. R. Carter.  
Two Hundred Farmers at Sunflower Meet Here.



"While you may not carry a gun, or go into the trenches of France, you must play an important part in this world wide war," declared Dr. William R. Carter, in addressing two hundred farmers this morning at the opening of the Sunflower Agricultural association, which is composed of negro farmers from all parts of the state, "and you must do your part as men and as farmers.

"Our government is prepared to furnish the soldiers with clothes, ammunition and with guns, and it is now up to the farmers to furnish them with food which is essential to success. No one who thinks will ever question the loyalty of the negro. He has always been true and loyal to the flag, and patriotism flows freely in the heart of every young American negro, who are restless. They are anxious to get into the fight, and I am sure that they will keep up the record made by their fathers and bring to the race praises from friends and foes alike. The world has always admired a brave man, brave soldiers, men who marched into death like they were marching into a royal meal. These men have made a place in history for us and we must keep it up.

"I am proud of our young men of Kansas—they do not want to be drafted but are willing to go forward. They have the true Kansas spirit. I am glad of the expressions which have been made by you men—your willingness to give up your sons, and then to spend your time in making food for them and for the allies. This is true Americanism, the spirit that will please President Wilson and his cabinet. All Kansas is interested in you, and will watch your movements."

#### Poultry Raising.

The Rev. W. W. Russell made the opening prayer. "Poultry Raising" was the theme discussed in the morning session. O. D. Redding, of Independence, told how to make chickens pay. "Government Emergency Work in Poultry Raising," was discussed by L. W. Burdy, of Kansas Agricultural college, Manhattan. J. P. Perry, of Seymour Packing company, told how to judge poultry. J. K. Thompson also delivered an address.

The farm and industrial exhibit is attracting much attention. It is the largest in the history of the organization. One of the most interesting features is the dry farming exhibit from a colored colony, Deerfield, Colo. Then follows the canning exhibit by Josephine Wilson, showing how the negro can contribute his part in the world-wide war, and how the wheatless and meatless days may be observed with profit. The poultry exhibit is very large, and the exhibition from the domestic science department contributed much to the success.

The speakers for tonight are Robert Bradley, Paxton; Prof. F. W. Kirk, John M. Wright and Dr. W. R. Carter.

**TIMES-PICAYUNE**

s: New Orleans, La.

**OFFER NEGRO FARMERS COLLEGE SHORT COURSE**

## Agricultural Department of State Seeks Better Results from Farm Work.

President J. S. Clark announces that the third annual session of the state negro farmers' conference will be held at Southern University and A. and M. College, Baton Rouge, February 5 to 10. This conference is under the direction of the Agricultural Department of the state for the purpose of helping the colored farmers in obtaining better results from the soil.

The first three days of the conference will be a short course in which regular lessons in agriculture, stock raising, etc., will be taught. These lessons will be taught by experts who will be able to advise correctly. Among the instructors are Dr. W. R. Dodson, head of the Agricultural Department, Louisiana State University; Mr. Mason Snowden, state agent, United States Department of Agriculture; Professor W. R. Perkins, Department of Farm Crops, state of Louisiana; Dr. G. E. Neisom, Department of Live Stock, state of Louisiana; Professor E. S. Richardson, head of the junior extension work, state of Louisiana, and Professor George W. Carver, director of the experiment station, Tuskegee Institute, Alabama. In addition to these speakers many others will be on the program. Governor Ruffin G. Pleasant, and T. H. Harris, state superintendent of education, will address the conference.

The invitation is extended to all of the colored farmers of the state of Louisiana.

The extension agents under the direction of Louisiana State University and A. and M. College, working through Southern University and A. and M. College, will give a concise report of their work, and will assist largely in carrying on the conference.

A special feature of Thursday's program will be an address by Professor George W. Carver, of Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, a scientific agriculturalist. Southern University will make a special effort to entertain all visitors who do not live nearby.

The Jeanes conference is expected to meet in connection with the farmers' conference.

paper cutting Bureau in the world

New Orleans, La.

## BETTER FARMS FOR NEGROES IS AIM

### Program For Four Days Conference At Baton Rouge University Announced

Eighty-five per cent of the negroes in Louisiana depend upon the soil for their support, and, through the Farmers' Conference at Southern University and A. & M. College at Baton Rouge, beginning Monday, it is hoped by J. S. Clark, the president, "to scatter the gospel of right cultivation of the soil, larger yield, better homes, and a united effort to develop all the resources of the great state of Louisiana."

The program for the conference follows:

#### MONDAY.

10:30 a. m., conference called to order and remarks.  
11 a. m., welcome address, President J. S. Clark.  
11:30 a. m., enrollment and announcements.  
Noon, address, Director W. R. Dodson, Louisiana State University.  
1 p. m., luncheon.  
2 p. m., agents meeting, conducted by Hon. Mason Snowden, state agent.  
3:30 p. m., address, "A System of Farm Bookkeeping," Prof. Riley Hamilton, Southern University.  
4 p. m., recess.  
7:20 p. m., concert, S. U.

#### TUESDAY.

9 a. m., discussion, "Improvement of Soil, Fertilizer, Best Results," led by Agent T. J. Jordan.  
10 a. m., talk, "How I Made 3 3/4 Bales of Cotton on Four Acres of Hill Land," Calvin Stevenson.  
10:30, topic, "Did My Farm Pay Last Year?" farmers.  
11:30 a. m., talks, "Growing of Cotton and Other Crops That Should Be Grown by the Cotton Farmers," Demonstration Agent Methvien and District Agent Woolman.  
12:30 p. m., "The Fight Against the Boll Weevil," Agent R. D. Doggett.  
1 p. m., luncheon.  
2 p. m., agents' meeting, conducted by Hon. Mason Snowden, state agent.  
3 p. m., instruction.  
4 p. m., address, "Importance of Seed Selection," Prof. J. M. Harris.  
7:30, recital.

#### WEDNESDAY.

9 a. m., "How the Jeanes Agents Are Helping the Farmers," Agents M. A. Nance and W. W. Solette.  
10 a. m., discussion, "Can the Negroes of Louisiana Feel Themselves?" led by A. Lawles, Jr., New Orleans.  
11 a. m., instruction in corn and plg work, Messrs. J. L. Heirs and W. H. Ballis.  
Noon, "Stock Raising, a Means to Economical and Successful Farming," selected.  
1 p. m., luncheon.  
2 p. m., agents' conference.  
3 p. m., address, "Safe Farming," Agent J. M. Burr.  
3:30 p. m., demonstration in biscuit making, Miss Alice Keeler.  
7:30 p. m., illustrated lecture, prof. E. S. Richardson.

#### THURSDAY.

9 a. m., "How Can the Farmer Keep His Boys and Girls on the Farm," led by Heck Young.  
10 a. m., "Southern University's Method of Helping the Farmers of the State," Agent A. J. Jones.  
10:30 a. m., address, Prof. George W. Carver, Tuskegee Institute, Ala.

## LOUISIANA NEGRO FARMERS' CONFERENCE

*Southwestern Christian*  
Southern University and Agricultural and Mechanical College, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, will hold its third annual Farmers' Conference February 5th to 10th, 1917. 1-18-17

All farmers in the state of Louisiana are cordially invited and expected to attend the Short Course and Conference under the direction of the Agricultural Department of the State.

The first three days of the Conference will be a short course in which regular lessons in Agriculture, Stock Raising, etc., will be taught. These lessons will be taught by experts who have studied conditions thoroughly and will be able to advise correctly. Among the persons who will instruct during the short course are Dr. W. R. Dodson, head of the Agricultural Department, Louisiana State University; Mr. Mason Snowden, State Agent, United States Department of Agriculture; Prof. W. R. Perkins, Department of Farm Crops, State of Louisiana; Dr. G. E. Neisom, Department of Live Stock, State of Louisiana; Prof. E. S. Richardson, head of the Junior Extension Work, State of Louisiana; and Prof. George W. Carver, Director of the Experiment Station, Tuskegee Institute, Alabama. In addition to these speakers many others will be on the program. His Excellency, Governor Ruffin G. Pleasant, and Hon T. H. Harris, State Superintendent of Education, will address the Conference.

The invitation is extended to all of the colored farmers of the State of Louisiana.

### COLORED FARMERS WILL

### MEET IN HANCOCK

*Constitution 2-27-17*

Sparta, Ga., February 26.—(Special.) The colored farmers of Hancock county will hold an agricultural and educational rally on March 24 at Sparta Agricultural and Industrial institute.

Quite a number of distinguished speakers are invited to be present. The government will send a speaker to address the farmers on methods of farming and the boll weevil subject.

The exodus question will be discussed and the very best advice will be given along this line.

Place references have been held as follows; At Payne College,

Cuthbert, Georgia. Columbia, S. C.; Georgia State Industrial College, Savannah; Piney

Woods School, Mississippi; and Lane College, Jackson, Tenn. Most of the references

were espically for farmers and all of them were well attended.

The Crisis April, 1917. 299.